

# BIDDING FAREWELL TO HIS EXCELLENCY, AMBASSADOR GALLAGHER

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I would like to offer some brief comments, if I may, regarding a good friend to many of us here who will be returning to his country in the next few days. I speak of Dermot A. Gallagher, Mr. President, the current Ambassador of Ireland to the United States.

Mr. President, Dermot Gallagher can leave the United States with pride in the work that he has done for his Government and his country.

I have had the privilege, Mr. President, of working closely with Dermot over the last 6 years, as many of us have. It has been an extremely positive experience, and I have come to consider Dermot not only a competent diplomat, but a good friend, and a good friend to this country. Without doubt, Dermot Gallagher is a consummate professional, an able and talented diplomat, and an individual who has served his country with skill and grace. And in no small measure, he has been assisted in that process by his lovely wife Maeve who has been a partner in this endeavor of theirs over the last number of years.

It goes without saying that Ambassador Gallagher has had an extraordinarily busy and productive tenure as Ireland's Ambassador in Washington. From early 1994 until the present, Ireland, and particularly the Northern Ireland peace process, have been front-burner issues for the Irish, the British, and our own Government.

Naturally, Dermot Gallagher has been in the thick of all of it. He has been an effective spokesman for his Government with the State Department, the White House, and the Congress. He has also been enormously helpful, I might point out, Mr. President, to those of us who have been actively involved in trying to get the peace process back on track in that country following the tragic decision of the IRA last year to break the August 1994 cease-fire.

Ambassador Gallagher may be returning home to Dublin, but I am confident he will remain actively involved in many of the same issues with which he has become so intimately knowledgeable. I say this because Ambassador Gallagher will be returning to Dublin to assume the position of Second Secretary General within the Department of Foreign Affairs, where he will continue to play a major role in Anglo-Irish issues, especially in the Northern Ireland peace process.

Given the recent events in Drumcree, where once again violence erupted, Mr. President, in connection with the annual Orange Order parade season, he will have his work cut out for him. Dermot will play a critical role in advising the newly elected Irish prime minister, Bertie Ahern, on the most effective policies for the Irish Government to pursue in order to restore a climate of trust, peace, and reinvigo-

rate the currently stalled peace process.

So, Mr. President, I know again I speak for all of my colleagues here when I bid Ambassador Gallagher and his wife Maeve and their family a farewell and a thank you for a job very well done. We continue to look forward to working with him in the years ahead.

## DEVELOPMENTS IN CAMBODIA CAUSE FOR CONCERN

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, for those of us who follow events in Southeast Asia closely, recent developments in Cambodia are a cause for great concern.

The coup d'etat—and, yes, I employ that term even if the Department of State, for broader foreign policy reasons, does not—staged this week by Second Prime Minister Hun Sen is a terrible setback for that strife-torn country. Tragically, the expression by Mao Tse-Tung that “power grows out of the barrel of a gun” applies nowhere more so than Cambodia. A peace process initiated in 1991, culminating in the Paris peace accords, and manifested most significantly in the 1993 elections is dying.

The investment in that country since the signing of the 1991 accord by the international community of more than \$3 billion, including \$160 million from the United States, has clearly failed to eliminate from Cambodia the intertwining of politics and violence. The removal from power of the Khmer Rouge, one of the most vicious guerrilla movements in history—the very people for whom Cambodia has become synonymous with the image of bloodshed on a monumental scale—has not eliminated from the minds of Cambodia's leaders the notion of “power from the barrel of a gun.”

Mr. President, I am a strong supporter in Congress of facilitating the development of normal political and economic relationships with former adversaries in the Far East. I supported the opening of diplomatic relations with Vietnam and the extension of most-favored-nation trade status to Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. With many other Members of Congress, I have invested considerable time and effort to helping secure a peaceful and prosperous future for a region that has known decades of warfare unimaginable to most Americans. I can only now fear for the future. The coup by Hun Sen represents a reversal of fortune that will prove, I fear, extremely difficult to resolve. The culture of violence that dominates major factions in Cambodia is alive and well and once again in power.

The response to the coup by the Clinton administration is understandably tempered by the knowledge that we will have to deal with the new regime as a simple fact of life, as well as within a broader regional context. It is that regional context that worries me as

much as the developments inside Cambodia. The visit by Hun Sen to Hanoi immediately prior to his takeover of Phnom Penh sends a chilling message to those of us concerned about the region's future. Whether Vietnam is culpable in the events in Cambodia is an issue that demands, and presumably will receive, serious attention.

The American public remains extraordinarily wary of any involvement by this country in Southeast Asia. That is understandable given the history of United States involvement there as well as memories of the years of terror in Cambodia under the Khmer Rouge. That concern cannot and should not be ignored. That is why I was never under any doubt about the popularity of some of my positions with regard to Southeast Asia. The United States, however, must remain engaged there. It cannot turn its back on a region of great importance to the entire Far East. Conflict in Indochina, during a period when countries circle each other warily over specks in the South China Sea that may or may not be rich in oil and natural gas, can easily have wider implications. We must work to bring peace and stability to Southeast Asia. Both morally and practically, we must stay engaged.

I have met a number of times in the past with Hun Sen. He is a tough individual not vulnerable to intimidation. He is capable of acting as ruthlessly as he deems necessary. His troops have actively sought out Members of Cambodia's elected Parliament with the clear intent of imprisoning those who oppose him and incorporating into his movement those who do not. Cambodia's interior minister was captured and executed. Sam Rainsy, president of the Khmer National Party and a friend of some of ours, expressed the situation appropriately when he asked, only partly rhetorically,

On what ground, following what rule, what law, what article of the Constitution, what legal procedure can the Second Prime Minister unilaterally “dismiss” the First Prime Minister . . . (Only with the backing of his tanks Hun Sen gave to himself the right to dismiss the First Prime Minister and to announce the formation of a new government.)

A reign of terror has been launched and a shadow has fallen over a country now known more for its violence than its awesome natural beauty. Gunfire around the Angkor Wat Temple, revered by Buddhism and universally identified with solemnity, provides a sad contrast that illustrates all too well the tragic fate of Cambodia. The international community, which invested so much time, energy, prestige, and money in establishing in Cambodia a democratic form of government and the opportunity for the same peaceful and prosperous future enjoyed by so many of Asia's countries, can be forgiven if it does not attempt a repeat of its efforts earlier this decade.

The United States should, I believe, work to resolve this crisis and repair the damage. I would be hard-pressed at